

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

RICHARD WAGNER,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SKYLINE CHILI, INC.

d/b/a SKYLINE CHILI,

&

SHOPPES ON OLENTANGY II LLC,

Defendants.

CASE NO.:

**CIVIL RIGHTS**

**COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE  
RELIEF AND DAMAGES:**

**1ST CAUSE OF ACTION:** For Denial of  
Access by a Public Accommodation in  
Violation of the Americans with Disability  
Act of 1990 (“Title III” and “ADA”),  
42 U.S.C. §§ 12181 *et seq.*

**2ND CAUSE OF ACTION:** For Denial of  
Access by a Public Accommodation in  
Violation of Ohio Revised Code 4112.02, *et  
seq.*

**3RD CAUSE OF ACTION:** For Denial of  
Access by a Public Accommodation in  
Violation of Ohio Administrative Code  
4101:1-11, *et seq.*

Plaintiff RICHARD WAGNER Complains of Defendants SKYLINE CHILI, INC. doing  
business as SKYLINE CHILI (hereinafter “SKYLINE”), and SHOPPES ON OLENTANGY II  
LLC (hereinafter “SHOPPES”), and alleges as follows:

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. This is a civil rights action for discrimination against persons with physical  
disabilities, of which plaintiff WAGNER is a member of, for failure to remove architectural  
barriers structural in nature at Defendants’ Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on  
Olentangy shopping center, a place of public accommodation, thereby discriminatorily denying  
plaintiff access to, the full and equal enjoyment of, opportunity to participate in, and benefit  
from, the goods, facilities, services, and accommodations thereof. WAGNER seeks injunctive

1 relief and damages pursuant to the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (“title III” AND  
2 “ADA”), 42. U.S.C. §§ 12181 *et seq.*; Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*; and Ohio  
3 Administrative Code § 4101:1-11, *et sec.*  
4

5 2. WAGNER is a person with physical disabilities who, on or about December 17,  
6 2018, was an invitee, guest, patron, or customer at Defendants’ Skyline Chili restaurant and the  
7 Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center, in the City of Columbus, Ohio. At said time and place,  
8 defendants failed to provide proper legal access to Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on  
9 Olentangy shopping center, which is a public accommodation and/or public facility. The denial  
10 of access was in violation of both federal and Ohio legal requirements, and WAGNER suffered  
11 violations of his civil rights to full and equal access and was embarrassed and humiliated.  
12

13 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE:**

14 3. **Jurisdiction:** This Court has jurisdiction of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C.  
15 §1331 for violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12101, *et seq.*  
16 Pursuant to pendant jurisdiction, attendant and related causes of action, arising from the same  
17 nucleus of operative facts and arising out of the same transactions, are also brought under  
18 parallel Ohio law, whose goals are closely tied with the ADA, including but not limited to  
19 violations of Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*; and Ohio Administrative Code § 4101:1-11,  
20 *et sec.*  
21

22 4. **Venue:** Venue is proper in this court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) and is  
23 founded on the facts that the real property which is the subject of this action is located in this  
24 district at/near 2995 Olentangy River Road, in the City of Columbus, County of Franklin, State  
25 of Ohio and that WAGNER’s causes of action arose in this district.  
26

27 **PARTIES:**  
28

1           5.       WAGNER is a “physically handicapped person,” a “physically disabled person,”  
2 and a “person with physical disabilities.” (Hereinafter the terms “physically disabled,”  
3 “physically handicapped” and “person with physical disabilities” are used interchangeably, as  
4 these words have similar or identical common usage and legal meaning.) WAGNER is a “person  
5 with physical disabilities,” as defined by all applicable Ohio and United States laws. WAGNER  
6 requires the use of a wheelchair to travel about in public. Consequently, WAGNER is a member  
7 of that portion of the public whose rights are protected by the provisions of Ohio Revised Code §  
8 4112.02, *et seq.* and Ohio Administrative Code § 4101:1-11, *et sec.* Wagner is a resident of  
9 Columbus, Ohio.  
10

11  
12           6.       Defendants SKYLINE CHILI, INC., doing business as SKYLINE CHILE, an Ohio  
13 Corporation, and SHOPPES ON OLENTANGY II LLC, an Ohio Limited Liability company,  
14 (hereinafter alternatively referred to as “Defendants”) are the owners and operators, lessors  
15 and/or lessees, or agents of the owners, lessors and/or lessees, and/or alter ego, franchisor and/or  
16 franchisee, of the building and/or buildings which constitute a public facility in and of itself,  
17 occupied by Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center, a public  
18 accommodation, located at/near 2995 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, Ohio, and subject to the  
19 requirements of Ohio state law requiring full and equal access to public facilities pursuant to  
20 Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*, Ohio Administrative Code § 4101:1-11, *et sec.*, and  
21 subject to the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (“title III” AND “ADA”), 42. U.S.C. §§  
22 12181 *et seq.*, and to all other legal requirements referred to in this complaint.  
23  
24

25           7.       At all times relevant to this complaint, Defendants are the lessee, or agent of the  
26 lessees, and/or lessors, of said premises, and/or alter ego of the lessees, lessors and their agents,  
27 and owns and operates in joint enterprise the subject Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on  
28

1 Olentangy shopping center as a public facility at/near 2995 Olentangy River Road, Columbus,  
2 Ohio. The business is open to the general public and conducts business therein. The business  
3 operates on said premises is a public accommodations subject to the requirements of Ohio  
4 Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.* and Ohio Administrative Code § 4101:1-11, *et sec.* WAGNER  
5 does not know the relative responsibilities of the Defendants in the operation of the facilities  
6 herein complained of, and alleges a joint venture and common enterprise by all such Defendants.  
7

8         8. At all times relevant to this complaint, Defendants are the landlords/lessors,  
9 tenants/lessees and the owners and operators of the subject Skyline Chili restaurant and the  
10 Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center, public accommodations located at/near 2995 Olentangy  
11 River Road, Columbus, Ohio. As such, Defendants are jointly and severally responsible to  
12 identify and remove architectural barriers pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations section  
13 36.201(b), which states in pertinent  
14 part:  
15

16                 **§ 36.201         General**

17                         (b) Landlord and tenant responsibilities. Both the landlord  
18 who owns the building that houses a place of public  
19 accommodation and the tenant who owns or operates the place of  
20 public accommodation are public accommodations subject to the  
21 requirements of this part. As between the parties, allocation of  
22 responsibility for complying with the obligations of this part may  
23 be determined by lease or other contract.

24                         CFR §36.201(b)

25         9. WAGNER does not know the true names of Defendants, their business capacities,  
26 their ownership connection to the property and business, nor their relative responsibilities in  
27 causing the access violations herein complained of, and allege a joint venture and common  
28 enterprise by all such Defendants. WAGNER is informed and believes that the Defendants

herein are public accommodations, and are the agent, ostensible agent, master, servant, employer, employee, representative, franchisor, franchisee, joint venturer, alter ego, partner, and associate, or such similar capacity, of each of the other Defendants, and was at all times acting and performing, or failing to act or perform, within the course and scope of his, her or its authority as agent, ostensible agent, master, servant, employer, employee, representative, franchiser, franchisee, joint venturer, alter ego, partner, and associate, or such similar capacity, and with the authorization, consent, permission or ratification of each of the other Defendants, and is responsible in some manner for the acts and omissions of the other Defendants in legally causing the violations and damages complained of herein, and have approved or ratified each of the acts or omissions of each other defendant, as herein described. WAGNER may seek leave to amend when the true names, capacities, connections, and responsibilities of Defendants are ascertained.

10. WAGNER is informed and believes that the named Defendants conspired to commit the acts described herein, or alternatively, aided and abetted one another in the performance of the wrongful acts hereinafter alleged.

#### **PRELIMINARY FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS:**

11. Defendants are the entities that own, lease (or leases to), or operate Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy, a restaurant and shopping center, located at/near 2995 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, Ohio. Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center and each of its facilities are places “of public accommodation” subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (“TITLE III” AND “ADA”), 42. U.S.C. §§ 12181 *et seq.*, Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*; and Ohio Administrative Code § 4101:1-11, *et sec.* On information and belief, said facility has undergone “alterations, structural

1 repairs and additions,” each of which has subjected Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on  
2 Olentangy shopping center to handicapped access requirements.

3 12. WAGNER is a person with a disability. WAGNER is a “physically disabled person,”  
4 as defined by all applicable Ohio and United States laws. WAGNER is a paraplegic and requires  
5 the use of a wheelchair for mobility and to travel in public.  
6

7 13. At all times referred to herein and continuing to the present time, Defendants  
8 advertised, publicized and held out Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy  
9 shopping center as being handicapped accessible and handicapped usable.  
10

11 14. On or about December 17, 2018, WAGNER was an invitee and guest at the subject  
12 restaurant and shopping center, arriving for purposes of eating a meal.

13 15. Upon his arrival, during his patronizing of the public accommodations, and upon his  
14 exit of the facility, WAGNER personally encountered architectural barriers which denied him  
15 the full and equal access to the property.  
16

17 16. Therefore, at said time and place, WAGNER, a person with a disability, encountered  
18 the following inaccessible elements of the subject Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on  
19 Olentangy shopping center which constituted architectural barriers and a denial of the proper and  
20 legally required access to a public accommodation to persons with physical disabilities. By way  
21 of example and not as an exhaustive inventory of Defendants’ violations, the following barriers  
22 to access were personally encountered by WAGNER:  
23

24 a. **Parking**

25 i. There are no signs marking the accessible parking spaces in violation of  
26 2010 ADAS Section 502.6.

27 ii. There are no signs marking the van accessible parking spaces in violation of  
28

2010 ADAS Section 502.6.

- iii. The running slop of the accessible parking stall exceeds 2% in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 502.4.

**b. Entrance**

- i. The floor mat is not secured at the entry doors in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 302.2.

**c. Dining Area**

- i. No tables or booths are accessible because there is not sufficient knee and toe clearance due to the table bases in violation of 2010 ADAS Sections 226.1 and 306.2.1.
- ii. No booths are accessible because there is not sufficient knee and toe clearance due to less than 30" width provided in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 306.2.1.
- iii. No bar seating is accessible because there is not clear floor space or knee and toe clearance provided in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 226.1.
- iv. No bar seating is accessible because the counter is greater than 34" above the floor in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 902.3.
- v. The coat hooks are greater than 48" above the floor in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 308.3.1.

**d. Men's Restroom**

- i. The toilet paper dispenser is mounted too close to the top of the grab bar, minimizing the gripping surface in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 609.3.
- ii. The required 56" by 60" clear floor space for the water closet has been

- 1 obstructed by the trash can in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 604.3.1.
- 2 iii. The urinal is located in an area that does not provide the required clear
- 3 floor space for a front approach in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 605.3.
- 4
- 5 iv. The paper towel and soap dispensers are not accessible because there is not
- 6 adequate clear floor space for either a forward or side approach in violation
- 7 of 2010 ADAS Section 305.3.
- 8 v. The paper towel dispenser's operation mechanism is too high off the floor
- 9 in violation of 2010 ADAS Section 308.2.1.
- 10
- 11 vi. The coat hook is installed greater than 48 inches above the finished floor in
- 12 violation of 2010 ADAS Section 308.2.1.
- 13
- 14 vii. The lavatory supply and drain lines are not completely insulated in
- 15 violation of 2010 ADAS Section 606.5.
- 16
- 17 viii. On personal knowledge, information and belief, other public facilities and
- 18 elements too numerous to list were improperly inaccessible for use by
- persons with physical disabilities.

19 17. The discriminatory violations described in ¶ 16 are not an exclusive list of the

20 Defendants' violations. WAGNER requires the inspection of the Defendants' place of public

21 accommodation in order to photograph and measure all of the discriminatory acts violating the

22 Americans with Disability Act of 1990 ("title III" AND "ADA"), 42. U.S.C. §§ 12181 *et seq.*,

23 Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*; and Ohio Administrative Code §4101:1-11, *et sec.*

24

25 18. At all times stated herein, the existence of architectural barriers at Defendants'

26 place of public accommodation evidenced "actual notice" of Defendants' intent not to comply

27 with the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 ("title III" and "ADA"), 42. U.S.C. §§ 12181 *et*

28



1 *seq.*, Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*; and Ohio Administrative Code §4101:1-11, *et sec.*  
2 either then, now or in the future.

3         19. As a legal result of Defendants' failure to act as a reasonable and prudent public  
4 accommodation in identifying, removing or creating architectural barriers, policies, practices and  
5 procedures that denied access to WAGNER and other persons with disabilities, WAGNER  
6 suffered damages as alleged herein.

7  
8         20. As a further legal result of the actions and failure to act of Defendants, and as a  
9 legal result of the failure to provide proper handicapped-accessible public facilities as set forth  
10 herein, WAGNER was denied his civil rights to full and equal access to public facilities.  
11 WAGNER suffered a loss of his civil rights and his rights as a person with physical disabilities  
12 to full and equal access to public facilities, and further suffered from injury, shame, humiliation,  
13 embarrassment, anger, chagrin, disappointment and worry, expectedly and naturally associated  
14 with a person with physical disabilities being denied access, all to his damages as prayed  
15 hereinafter in an amount within the jurisdiction of this court.  
16  
17

18         21. WAGNER is "physically handicapped," "physically disabled," or a "person with  
19 physical disabilities" who was denied his rights to equal access to a public facility by  
20 Defendants. Defendants maintained public establishments without access for persons with  
21 physical disabilities as stated herein, and continue as of the date of filing this complaint to deny  
22 equal access to WAGNER and other persons with physical disabilities in these and other ways.  
23

24         22. On information and belief, construction alterations carried out by Defendants have  
25 triggered access requirements under Americans with Disability Act of 1990 ("TITLE III" AND  
26 "ADA"), 42. U.S.C. §§ 12181 *et seq.*, Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*; and Ohio  
27 Administrative Code §4101:1-11, *et sec.*  
28

1           23. WAGNER, as described herein below, seeks injunctive relief to require Skyline Chili  
2 restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center to be made accessible to meet the  
3 requirements of both Ohio law and the Americans with Disabilities Act, whichever is more  
4 restrictive, so long as Defendants operate and/or lease Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes  
5 on Olentangy shopping center as a public facility. WAGNER seeks damages for violation of his  
6 civil rights, from December 17, 2018 until such date as Defendants brings the establishments into  
7 full compliance with the requirements of Ohio and federal law.  
8

9           24. On information and belief, Defendants have been negligent in their affirmative duty  
10 to identify the architectural barriers complained of herein and negligent in the removal of some  
11 or all of said barriers.  
12

13           25. Because of Defendants' violations, WAGNER and other persons with physical  
14 disabilities are unable to use public facilities such as those owned and operated by Defendants on  
15 a "full and equal" basis unless such facility is in compliance with the provisions of the  
16 Americans with Disabilities Act and other accessibility law as plead herein. WAGNER seeks an  
17 order from this court compelling Defendants to make Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes  
18 on Olentangy shopping center accessible to persons with disabilities.  
19

20           26. On information and belief, Defendants have intentionally undertaken to modify and  
21 alter existing building(s), and have failed to make them comply with accessibility requirements.  
22 The acts and omissions of Defendants in failing to provide the required accessible public  
23 facilities at the time of WAGNER's visit and injuries, indicate actual and implied malice towards  
24 WAGNER, and despicable conduct carried out by Defendants with a willful and conscious  
25 disregard for the rights and safety of WAGNER and other similarly situated persons, and justify  
26 punitive damages pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 2315.21, in amounts sufficient to make a  
27  
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1 more profound example of Defendants to other operators of other establishment and other public  
2 facilities, and to punish Defendants and to carry out the purposes of § 2315.21.

3 27. WAGNER is informed and believes and therefore alleges that Defendants caused the  
4 subject facility to be constructed, altered and maintained in such a manner that persons with  
5 physical disabilities were denied full and equal access to, within and throughout said building of  
6 Defendants and were denied full and equal use of said public facilities. Further, on information  
7 and belief, Defendants have continued to maintain and operate said facilities in such conditions  
8 up to the present time, despite actual and constructive notice to such Defendants that the  
9 configuration of the establishment and/or its building(s) is in violation of the civil rights of  
10 persons with physical disabilities, such as WAGNER and the disability community. Such  
11 construction, modification, ownership, operation, maintenance and practices of such public  
12 facilities are in violation of law as stated in Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (“TITLE III”  
13 AND “ADA”), 42. U.S.C. §§ 12181 *et seq.* and elsewhere in the laws of Ohio.

14 28. On information and belief, the subject public facilities and building(s) of  
15 Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center denied full and equal  
16 access to WAGNER and other persons with physical disabilities in other respects due to  
17 noncompliance with requirements of Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*; and Ohio  
18 Administrative Code §4101:1-11, *et sec.*

19 29. On personal knowledge, information and belief, the basis of Defendants’ actual  
20 and constructive notice that the physical configuration of the facilities including, but not limited  
21 to, architectural barriers constituting Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy  
22 shopping center was in violation of the civil rights of persons with physical disabilities, such as  
23 WAGNER, includes, but is not limited to, communications with invitees and guests, owners of

1 other establishments and businesses, notices Defendants obtained from governmental agencies  
2 upon modification, improvement, or substantial repair of the subject premises and other  
3 properties owned by this Defendants, newspaper articles and trade publications regarding the  
4 Americans with Disabilities Act and other access laws, public service announcements, and other  
5 similar information. Defendants' failure, under state and federal law, to make the establishment  
6 accessible is further evidence of Defendants' conscious disregard for the rights of WAGNER and  
7 other similarly situated persons with disabilities. The scope and means of the knowledge of  
8 Defendants are within Defendants' exclusive control and cannot be ascertained except through  
9 discovery. Despite being informed of such effect on WAGNER and other persons with physical  
10 disabilities due to the lack of accessible facilities, Defendants knowingly and willfully refused to  
11 take any steps to rectify the situation and to provide full and equal access for WAGNER and  
12 other persons with physical disabilities to the establishment. Said Defendants have continued  
13 such practices, in conscious disregard for the rights of WAGNER and other persons with  
14 physical disabilities, up to the date of filing of this complaint, and continuing thereon.  
15 Defendants have further actual knowledge of the architectural barriers referred to herein by  
16 virtue of the demand letter addressed to the Defendants. Said conduct, with knowledge of the  
17 effect it was and is having on WAGNER and other persons with physical disabilities, constitutes  
18 despicable conduct in conscious disregard of the rights and safety of WAGNER and of other  
19 similarly situated persons, justifying the imposition of punitive damages.  
20  
21  
22  
23

24 30. Punitive Damages -- Defendants, at times prior to and including December 17, 2018  
25 and continuing to the present time, knew that persons with physical disabilities were denied their  
26 rights of equal access to all portions of this public facility. Despite such knowledge, Defendants  
27 failed and refused to take steps to comply with the applicable access statutes; and despite  
28

1 knowledge of the resulting problems and denial of civil rights thereby suffered by WAGNER  
2 and other similarly situated persons with disabilities, including the specific notices referred to in  
3 paragraph 29 of this complaint. Defendants have failed and refused to take action to grant full  
4 and equal access to persons with physical disabilities in the respects complained of hereinabove.  
5 Defendants have carried out a course of conduct of refusing to respond to, or correct complaints  
6 about, denial of handicap access and has refused to comply with its legal obligations to make  
7 Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center accessible pursuant to  
8 the Americans with Disabilities Act and Ohio law. Such actions and continuing course of  
9 conduct by Defendants evidence despicable conduct in conscious disregard for the rights or  
10 safety of WAGNER and of other similarly situated persons, justifying an award of punitive  
11 damages.  
12

13  
14 31. Defendants' actions have also been oppressive to persons with physical  
15 disabilities and of other members of the public, and have evidenced actual or implied malicious  
16 intent toward those members of the public, such as WAGNER and other persons with physical  
17 disabilities who have been denied the proper access they are entitled to by law. Further,  
18 Defendants' refusals on a day-to-day basis to remove the barriers complained of herein evidence  
19 despicable conduct in conscious disregard for the rights of WAGNER and other members of the  
20 public with physical disabilities.  
21

22  
23 32. WAGNER prays for an award of punitive damages against Defendants in an amount  
24 sufficient to make a more profound example of Defendants and discourage owners and operators  
25 of other establishments, and other public facilities, from willful disregard of the rights of persons  
26 with physical disabilities. Plaintiff does not know the financial worth of Defendants and seeks  
27 leave to amend this complaint when such facts are known.  
28

1 33. WAGNER will return to Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy  
2 shopping center, because he enjoys the food and atmosphere there, if Skyline Chili restaurant and  
3 the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center are made fully accessible to a disabled person in a  
4 wheelchair, and to also avail himself of the restaurant's services. Furthermore, WAGNER  
5 intends to return to Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center as an  
6 ADA tester to ascertain whether Defendants removed the barriers to access which are the subject  
7 of this litigation.  
8

9 **I. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FOR DENIAL OF ACCESS BY A PUBLIC**  
10 **ACCOMMODATION IN VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH**  
11 **DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 (42 U.S.C. §12101, *et seq.*)**

12 34. WAGNER pleads and incorporate by reference, as if fully set forth again herein,  
13 the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 33 of this complaint.

14 35. Pursuant to law, in 1990, the United States Congress made findings per 42 U.S.C.  
15 §12101 regarding persons with physical disabilities, finding that laws were needed to more fully  
16 protect:  
17

18 some 43 million Americans with one or more physical or mental  
19 disabilities; [that] historically society has tended to isolate and  
20 segregate individuals with disabilities; [that] such forms of  
21 discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a  
22 serious and pervasive social problem; [that] the nation's proper  
23 goals regarding individuals with disabilities are to assure equality  
24 of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic  
25 self-sufficiency for such individuals; [and that] the continuing  
26 existence of unfair and unnecessary discrimination and prejudice  
27 denies people with disabilities the opportunity to compete on an  
28 equal basis and to pursue those opportunities for which our free  
society is justifiably famous.

36. Congress stated as its purpose in passing the Americans with Disabilities Act of  
1990 (42 U.S.C. §12102):

It is the purpose of this act (1) to provide a clear and  
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1 comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of  
2 discrimination against individuals with disabilities; (2) to provide  
3 clear, strong, consistent, enforceable standards addressing  
4 discrimination against individuals with disabilities; (3) to ensure  
5 that the Federal government plays a central role in enforcing the  
6 standards established in this act on behalf of individuals with  
7 disabilities; and (4) to invoke the sweep of Congressional  
8 authority, including the power to enforce the 14th Amendment and  
9 to regulate commerce, in order to address the major areas of  
10 discrimination faced day to day by people with disabilities.

11 37. As part of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, (hereinafter the “ADA”),  
12 Congress passed “Title III - Public Accommodations and Services Operated by Private Entities”  
13 (Section 301 42 U.S.C. §12181, *et seq.*). Among the public accommodations identified for  
14 purposes of this title was:

15 (7) PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION - The following private  
16 entities are considered public accommodations for purposes of this  
17 title, if the operations of such entities affect commerce -

18 . . .

19 (B) an entertainment facility, bar, or other establishment serving food or drink;

20 42 U.S.C. §12181(7)(B).

21 38. Pursuant to §302, 42 U.S.C. §12182, “No individual shall be discriminated  
22 against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities,  
23 privileges, advantages, or accommodations of any place of public accommodation by any person  
24 who owns, leases, or leases to, or operates a place of public accommodation.”

25 39. The specific prohibitions against discrimination set forth in §302(b)(2)(a),  
26 42 U.S.C. §12182(b)(2)(a) are:

27 (i) the imposition or application of eligibility criteria  
28 that screen out or tend to screen out an individual with a disability  
that screen out or tend to screen out an individual with a disability  
or any class of individuals with disabilities from fully and equally  
enjoying any goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or  
accommodations, unless such criteria can be shown to be  
necessary for the provision of the goods, services, facilities,  
privileges, advantages, or accommodations being offered;

(ii) a failure to make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures, when such modifications are necessary to afford such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations to individuals with disabilities, unless the entity can demonstrate that making such modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations;

(iii) a failure to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that no individual with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated or otherwise treated differently than other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services, unless the entity can demonstrate that taking such steps would fundamentally alter the nature of the good, service, facility, privilege, advantage, or accommodation being offered or would result in an undue burden;

(iv) a failure to remove architectural barriers, and communication barriers that are structural in nature, in existing facilities . . . where such removal is readily achievable; and

(v) where an entity can demonstrate that the removal of a barrier under clause (iv) is not readily achievable, a failure to make such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations available through alternative methods if such methods are readily achievable.

The acts of Defendants set forth herein were a violation of WAGNER's rights under the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12181 *et seq.*; Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.*; and Ohio Administrative Code § 4101:1-11, *et sec.*, making available damage remedies.

40. The removal of the barriers complained of by WAGNER as hereinabove alleged was at all times after January 26, 1992 "readily achievable" as to the subject Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12182 (b)(2)(A)(i)-(iv). On information and belief, if the removal of all the barriers complained of herein together was not "readily achievable," the removal of each individual barrier complained of herein was "readily achievable." On information and belief, Defendants' failure to remove



1 said barriers was likewise due to discriminatory practices, procedures and eligibility criteria, as  
2 defined by §302(b)(2)(a)(i)-(iii); 42 U.S.C. §12182 (b)(2)(A)(i).

3 41. Per §301(9), 42 U.S.C. §12181 (9), the term “readily achievable” means “easily  
4 accomplishable and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense.” The statute  
5 defines relative “expense” in part in relation to the total financial resources of the entities  
6 involved. WAGNER alleges that properly repairing, modifying, or altering each of the items that  
7 plaintiff complains of herein were and are “readily achievable” by the Defendants under the  
8 standards set forth under §301(9) of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Further, if it was not  
9 “readily achievable” for Defendants to remove each of such barriers, Defendants have failed to  
10 make the required services available through alternative methods which were readily achievable.  
11

12 42. On information and belief, construction work on, and modifications of, the  
13 subject building(s) of Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center  
14 occurred after the compliance date for the Americans with Disabilities Act, January 26, 1992,  
15 independently triggering access requirements under Title III of the ADA.  
16

17 43. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12188, *et*  
18 *seq.*, §308, WAGNER is entitled to the remedies and procedures set forth in §204(a) of the Civil  
19 Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000(a)-3(a), as plaintiff is being subjected to discrimination on  
20 the basis of disability in violation of this title or have reasonable grounds for believing that  
21 he is about to be subjected to discrimination in violation of §302. WAGNER cannot return to or  
22 make use of the public facilities complained of herein so long as the premises and Defendants’  
23 policies bar full and equal use by persons with physical disabilities.  
24

25 44. Per §308(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 12188), “Nothing in this section shall require a person  
26 with a disability to engage in a futile gesture if such person has actual notice that a person or  
27

1 organization covered by this title does not intend to comply with its provisions.” Pursuant to this  
2 last section, WAGNER has not returned to Defendants’ premises since on or about December 17,  
3 2018, but on information and belief, alleges that Defendants have continued to violate the law  
4 and deny the rights of plaintiff and of other persons with physical disabilities to access this  
5 public accommodation. Pursuant to §308(a)(2), “In cases of violations of §302(b)(2)(A)(iv) . . .  
6 injunctive relief shall include an order to alter facilities to make such facilities readily accessible  
7 to and usable by individuals with disabilities to the extent required by this title.”  
8

9 45. WAGNER seeks relief pursuant to remedies set forth in §204(a) of the Civil  
10 Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000(a)-3(a)), and pursuant to federal regulations adopted to  
11 implement the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, including but not limited to an order  
12 granting injunctive relief and attorneys’ fees. WAGNER will seek attorneys’ fees conditioned  
13 upon being deemed to be the prevailing party.  
14

15 46. WAGNER seeks damages pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02, *et seq.* and  
16 Ohio Administrative Code § 4101:1-11, *et sec.*, which provide, within the statutory scheme, that  
17 a violation of the ADA and/or Ohio’s accessibility standards is a violation of Ohio law.  
18

19 Wherefore, plaintiff prays for relief and damages as hereinafter stated.

20 **II. SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION FOR DENIAL OF FULL AND EQUAL ACCESS**  
21 **IN VIOLATION OF OHIO REVISED CODE § 4112.02, *et seq.***

22 47. Plaintiff repleads and incorporates by reference as if fully set forth again herein,  
23 the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 46 of this complaint.

24 48. At all times relevant to this action, Ohio Revised Code § 4112.0254 has provided  
25 that persons with physical disabilities are not to be discriminated against because of physical  
26 handicap or disability. This section provides that:  
27

28 It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice:  
COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND DAMAGES - 18

1 (G) For any proprietor or any employee, keeper, or manager of a place of  
2 public accommodation to deny to any person, except for reasons  
3 applicable alike to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex,  
4 military status, national origin, disability, age, or ancestry, the full  
enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges of  
the place of public accommodation.

5 49. Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center are  
6 “places of public accommodation” pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 4112.01(A)(9).  
7

8 50. Defendants committed an unlawful act pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §  
9 4112.02(G) by denying WAGNER the full enjoyment of its accommodations, advantages,  
10 facilities, or privileges, whereas, WAGNER had great difficulty due to extensive barriers for  
11 patrons confined to wheelchairs.

12 51. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 4112.99, WAGNER is entitled to compensatory  
13 and punitive damages, and attorney fees and costs, in an amount to be determined at trial, but in  
14 any event not less than \$25,000.00, as well as issuance of an injunction requiring defendant to  
15 allow full and equal enjoyment of its goods, services, facilities, privileges, and advantages to  
16 disabled persons.  
17

18 52. A separate act in violation of Ohio Revised Code § 4112.02(G) has been  
19 committed each day that Defendants act or fail to act and/or knowingly and willfully fails and  
20 refuse to remove each architectural barrier or policy and procedure barrier presently existing at  
21 the subject public accommodation which denies full and equal access for persons with physical  
22 disabilities to said building(s), elements and facilities of Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes  
23 on Olentangy shopping center. WAGNER has been denied full and equal access on an ongoing  
24 basis since the date of his first visit. As a legal result, WAGNER is entitled to seek appropriate  
25 relief, such as damages, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 4112.99.  
26  
27

28 53. On or about December 17, 2018, WAGNER suffered violations of Ohio Revised  
COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND DAMAGES - 19

1 Code § 4112.02(G) in that WAGNER was denied access to the facilities as stated herein at  
2 Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center and on the basis that  
3 WAGNER was a person with physical disabilities.  
4

5 54. As a result of the denial of equal access to Defendants' facilities due to the acts  
6 and omissions of Defendants in owning, operating and maintaining these subject public facilities,  
7 WAGNER suffered violations of his civil rights, as well as suffering from shame, humiliation,  
8 embarrassment, frustration, anger, chagrin, disappointment and worry, all of which are  
9 expectedly and naturally associated with a denial of access to a person with physical disabilities,  
10 all to plaintiff's damages as hereinafter stated.  
11

12 55. WAGNER has been damaged by Defendants' wrongful conduct and seeks the  
13 relief that is afforded by Ohio Revised Code § 4112 for violation of his rights as a person,  
14 including statutory damages according to proof.  
15

16 56. As a result of Defendants' acts and omissions in this regard, WAGNER has been  
17 required to incur legal expenses and hire attorneys in order to enforce his rights and  
18 enforce the provisions of the law protecting access for persons with physical disabilities and  
19 prohibiting discrimination against persons with physical disabilities. Pursuant to the provisions  
20 of Ohio Revised Code § 4112, WAGNER therefore will seek recovery in this lawsuit for all  
21 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred if deemed the prevailing party.  
22

23 Wherefore, plaintiff prays for relief and damages as hereinafter stated.

24 **III. THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION FOR DENIAL OF FULL AND EQUAL ACCESS**  
25 **IN VIOLATION OF OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE § 4101:1-11, *et seq.***

26 57. WAGNER repleads and incorporates by reference as if fully set forth again  
27 herein, the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 56 of this complaint.

28 58. Ohio Administrative Code (hereinafter "O.A.C.") § 4101:1-11 controls the design  
COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND DAMAGES - 20

1 and construction of facilities for accessibility for individuals with disabilities.

2 59. Sites, buildings, structures, facilities, elements and spaces, temporary or  
3 permanent, shall be accessible to individuals with disabilities. O.A.C. § 1103.1.

4 60. Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center, being a  
5 site, building, structure, facility, element or space, committed an unlawful act pursuant to O.A.C.  
6 §§ 1104.1 and 1109.1 by failing to make accessible its spaces, including but not limited to, its  
7 restrooms.

8 61. Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center  
9 committed an unlawful act pursuant to O.A.C. § 1108.1 by failing to provide accessible seating  
10 in its dining areas.

11 62. Defendants' violations denied WAGNER full enjoyment of its accommodations,  
12 advantages, facilities, or privileges, whereas, WAGNER had difficulty entering the property due  
13 to extensive barriers for patrons confined to wheelchairs on the accessible route.

14 63. As a result of these violations, WAGNER is entitled to compensatory and  
15 punitive damages, and attorney fees and costs, in an amount to be determined at trial, but in any  
16 event not less than \$25,000.00, as well as issuance of an injunction requiring Defendants to  
17 allow full and equal enjoyment of its goods, services, facilities, privileges, and advantages to  
18 disabled persons.

19 64. A separate act in violation of Ohio Administrative Code § 4101:1-11, *et seq.* has  
20 been committed each day that Defendants act or fail to act and/or knowingly and willfully  
21 fail and refuse to make accessible its site for physically disabled persons presently existing at the  
22 subject Skyline Chili restaurant and the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center. WAGNER has  
23 been denied full and equal access on an ongoing basis since the date of his first visit. As a legal  
24

1 result, WAGNER is entitled to seek appropriate relief, such as damages.

2         65. As a result of Defendants' accessibility violations, WAGNER suffered violations  
3 of his civil rights, as well as suffering from injury, shame, humiliation, embarrassment,  
4 frustration, anger, chagrin, disappointment and worry, all of which are expectedly and naturally  
5 associated with a denial of access to a person with physical disabilities, all to plaintiff's damages  
6 as hereinafter stated.

7  
8         66. WAGNER has been damaged by Defendants' wrongful conduct and seeks relief  
9 for violation of the O.A.C., including actual and special damages according to proof.

10  
11         67. As a result of Defendants' acts and omissions in this regard, WAGNER has been  
12 required to incur legal expenses and hire attorneys in order to enforce plaintiff's rights and  
13 enforce the provisions of the law protecting access for persons with physical disabilities and  
14 prohibiting discrimination against persons with physical disabilities. WAGNER therefore will  
15 seek recovery in this lawsuit for all reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred if deemed the  
16 prevailing party.

17  
18         Wherefore, Plaintiff RICHARD WAGNER prays for relief and damages as hereinafter  
19 stated.

20 **PRAYER:**

21         Wherefore, WAGNER prays that this court grant relief and damages as follows:

22  
23 **I. PRAYER FOR FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FOR DENIAL OF ACCESS BY A**  
24 **PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION IN VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH**  
**DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 (42 U.S.C. §1 2101, et seq.)**

25         1. For injunctive relief, compelling Defendants to make Skyline Chili restaurant and  
26 the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center readily accessible to and usable by individuals with  
27 disabilities; and to make reasonable modifications in policies, practice, eligibility criteria and

1 procedures so as to afford full access to the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and  
2 accommodations being offered.

3 2. For attorneys' fees, litigation expenses and costs of suit, if WAGNER is deemed  
4 the prevailing party; and  
5

6 3. For such other and further relief as the court may deem proper.

7 **I. PRAYER FOR SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION FOR DENIAL OF FULL AND**  
8 **EQUAL ACCESS IN VIOLATION OF OHIO REVISED CODE § 4112.02, *et***  
9 ***seq.***

10 4. For injunctive relief, compelling Defendants to make Skyline Chili restaurant and  
11 the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center readily accessible to and usable by individuals with  
12 disabilities, per state law.

13 5. General and compensatory damages according to proof;

14 6. All damages for each day, from the inception of the filing of this complaint, on  
15 which Defendants have failed to remove barriers which denied WAGNER and other persons  
16 with disabilities full and equal access.

17 7. Attorneys' fees pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 4112.99, if WAGNER is  
18 deemed the prevailing party;  
19

20 8. Punitive damages, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 2315.21;

21 9. For all costs of suit;

22 10. Prejudgment interest pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 1343.03(A);

23 11. Such other and further relief as the court may deem just and proper.

24 **III. PRAYER FOR THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION FOR DENIAL OF FULL AND**  
25 **EQUAL ACCESS IN VIOLATION OF OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE §**  
26 **4101:1-11, *et seq.***

27 12. For injunctive relief, compelling Defendants to make Skyline Chili restaurant and  
28

1 the Shoppes on Olentangy shopping center readily accessible to and usable by individuals with  
2 disabilities, per state law.

3 13. General and compensatory damages according to proof;

4 14. All damages for each day, from the inception of the filing of this complaint, on  
5 which Defendants have failed to remove barriers which denied WAGNER and other persons  
6 with disabilities full and equal access.  
7

8 15. Attorneys' fees pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 4112.99, if WAGNER is  
9 deemed the prevailing party;

10 16. Punitive damages, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 2315.21;

11 17. For all costs of suit;

12 18. Prejudgment interest pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 1343.03(A);

13 19. Such other and further relief as the court may deem just and proper.  
14  
15

16 Respectfully submitted,

17 BLAKEMORE, MEEKER & BOWLER CO., L.P.A.

18 /s/ COLIN G. MEEKER

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28